REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim 3 is amended herein to correct a typographical error. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-3, 6 and 11-34 are enabled by the specification.

Claims 1-3, 6 and 11-34 recite methods for inhibiting expression of human DNA methyltransferase. Applicants refer to the arguments previously made, which are incorporated herein by reference, and submit that the specification enables one skilled in the art to make and/or use the invention commensurate in scope with the claims. The test of enablement is not whether any experimentation is necessary, but whether, if experimentation is necessary, it is undue. *In re Angstadt*, 537 F.2d 498, 504 (CCPA 1976).

Because only an enabling disclosure is required, Applicants need not describe all actual embodiments. As long as the specification discloses at least one method for making and using the claimed invention that bears a reasonable correlation to the entire scope of the claim, then the enablement requirement is satisfied. The specification provides ample teachings regarding designing antisense oligonucleotides to, determining if said antisense oligonucleotides are capable of inhibiting the expression of human DNA methyltransferase and administering a therapeutically effective synergistic amount of said antisense oligonucleotides and a protein effector to a human for the purpose of treating disease and/or inhibiting tumor growth.

The Examiner maintains that the specification does not reasonable provide enablement for inhibiting the expression of a gene in vivo for the therapeutic treatment of mammals broadly, an in particular a human, having a disease associated with the expression of a gene. In response to the previous Office Action mailed on May 8, 2002, Applicants provided a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.132 as support for a mouse model as a generally accepted model of humans in antisense technology. The Examiner states that the Declaration is insufficient to overcome the rejection because the facts presented are not germane to the rejection at issue, and that the showing is not commensurate in scope with the claims.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Declaration. The Declaration was provided to demonstrate that one of ordinary skill in the art recognizes that a mouse model is a generally accepted model for humans. Therefore, the specification is enabling for the *in vivo* inhibition of the expression of a gene for the therapeutic treatment of mammals broadly, an in

particular a human, having a disease associated with the expression of a gene. The fact that the Declaration does not address the co-administration of an antisense oligonucleotide with a protein effector of human DNA methyltransferase is not germane to the use of the Declaration. The Declaration was not provided to support the co-administration as the specification provides ample support (see, for example, Figures 19 and 20 of the instant application). Thus, the claimed invention is enabled.

Claims 1-3, 6 and 11-34 satisfy the written description requirement.

Claims 1-3, 6 and 11-34 recite a method for inhibiting expression of human DNA methyltransferase. As stated above, the specification teaches how to design antisense oligonucleotides to human DNA methyltransferase, teaches how to determine if the antisense oligonucleotides inhibit the expression of human DNA methyltransferase and discloses how to administer a therapeutically effective synergistic amount of said antisense oligonucleotides and a protein effector to a human for the purpose of treating disease and/or inhibiting tumor growth. Applicants refer to the arguments previously made, which are incorporated herein by reference, and submit that one skilled in the art would recognize that the inventors had possession of the claimed invention at the time the application was filed.

If the Examiner believes that any discussion of this communication would be helpful, the undersigned attorney can be reached by telephone at 781-933-6630.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 11/12/03

Wayne A. Keown, Ph.D.
Registration No. 33,923
Attorney for Applicants

Keown & Associates
500 West Cummings Park
Suite 1200
Woburn, MA 01801
781-938-1805